

FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE MANAGEMENT IN ALASKA

TABLE OF CONTENTS

GENERAL INFORMATION

Introduction	2	Unit 17 Bristol Bay	95, (96)
Federal Subsistence Board	2	Unit 18 Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta	102, (101)
Federal Subsistence Regional Advisory Councils	3	Unit 19 McGrath	106, (108)
Federal Subsistence Regional Coordinators	3	Unit 20 Fairbanks-Central Tanana	113, (112)
Federal Nonrural Areas	4	Unit 21 Middle Yukon	121, (120)
Maps of Nonrural Areas	5	Unit 22 Nome	126, (128)
How to Use This Booklet	7	Unit 23 Kotzebue Sound	134, (133)
Eligibility; Open Seasons and Harvest Limits;		Unit 24 Koyukuk	139, (140)
Licenses, Permits, Harvest Tickets and Tags		Unit 25 Fort Yukon	146, (145)
State of Alaska General Hunting Regulations	9	Unit 26 Arctic Slope	153, (157)
Special Requirements for National Park			
Service Lands	9		
Land Ownership Patterns	9		
Topographic Maps	9		
Subsistence Taking of Marine Mammals			
and Migratory Birds	10		
Alternative Permitting Systems	10		
How Changes Are Made to These Regulations	10		
Public Involvement Opportunities	10		
Proposal Form	11		

FEDERAL LAND MANAGEMENT OFFICES IN ALASKA

Bureau of Indian Affairs	159
Bureau of Land Management	159
National Park Service	159
U.S.D.A. Forest Service	160
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	160

SUBSISTENCE TAKING OF WILDLIFE

Definitions	13
General Provisions for the Taking of Wildlife	16
Methods and Means of Taking Wildlife	16
Possession and Transportation of Wildlife	18
Utilization of Wildlife	20
Defense of Life and Property	20
Specific Units and Restrictions	22, (map page)
Unit 1 Southeast Mainland	22, (21)
Unit 2 Prince of Wales	27, (28)
Unit 3 Petersburg-Wrangell	30, (32)
Unit 4 Admiralty-Baranof-Chichagof	34, (36)
Unit 5 Yakutat	39, (40)
Unit 6 Cordova-Valdez	44, (45)
Unit 7 Seward	50, (49)
Unit 8 Kodiak-Shelikof	54, (53)
Unit 9 Alaska Peninsula	58, (57)
Unit 10 Aleutian Islands	63, (64)
Unit 11 Wrangell Mountains-Chitina River	66, (68)
Unit 12 Upper Tanana-White River	71, (72)
Unit 13 Nelchina-Upper Susitna	77, (76)
Unit 14 Anchorage	82, (84)
Unit 15 Kenai	87, (88)
Unit 16 Lower Susitna	91, (92)

GENERAL INFORMATION

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INTRODUCTION

This booklet contains important information on seasons, harvest limits, methods and means, and customary and traditional use determinations related to the **taking of wildlife** on Federal public lands for subsistence uses. These regulations are effective from July 1, 2002, through June 30, 2003. Managed subsistence activities include the taking of most species of land mammals, grouse and ptarmigan.

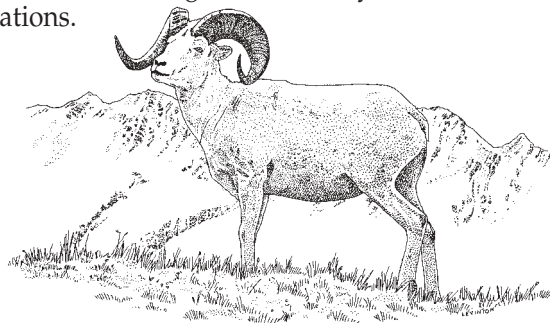
On July 1, 1990, the Federal Government assumed responsibility for the management of subsistence taking of wildlife on Federal public lands in Alaska. Federal public lands include lands managed by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Indian Affairs and the U.S.D.A. Forest Service, as well as non-navigable waters on these lands, and certain navigable and marine waters.

The Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act of 1980 requires that subsistence users have a priority over other users to take wildlife on Federal public lands where a recognized customary and traditional pattern of use exists. When it is necessary to restrict the taking of wildlife on these lands, subsistence uses are given preference over other consumptive uses.

The public is responsible for complying with Federal subsistence regulations, as well as with additional regulatory changes and/or temporary and emergency closures or restrictions implemented by the Federal Subsistence Board during the regulatory year. The purpose of these regulations is to provide the opportunity for rural Alaska residents engaged in a subsistence way of life to continue to do so. To protect subsistence opportunities, it is essential that healthy wildlife populations be conserved.

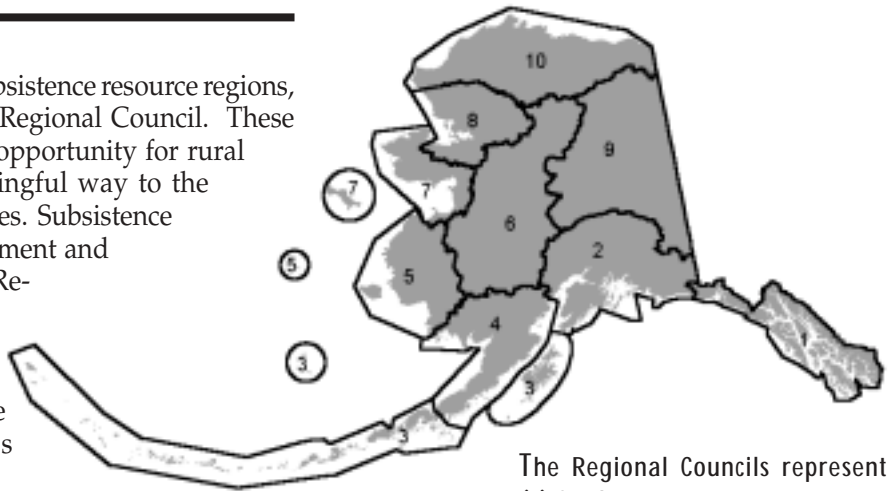
FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE BOARD

A Federal Subsistence Board oversees the Federal Subsistence Management Program. The Alaska directors of the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the National Park Service, the Bureau of Land Management, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, and the U.S.D.A. Forest Service, are members of the Board. A representative of the Secretary of the Interior serves as chair. Federal Subsistence Regional Advisory Councils and State of Alaska representatives play an active role in Board deliberations.



FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCILS

Alaska has been divided into ten subsistence resource regions, each of which is represented by a Regional Council. These ten Regional Councils provide an opportunity for rural Alaskans to contribute in a meaningful way to the management of subsistence resources. Subsistence users have the opportunity to comment and offer input on subsistence issues at Regional Council meetings, which are held at least twice a year. The Regional Councils develop proposals to change Federal subsistence regulations and review proposals submitted by others.



The Regional Councils represent

- (1) Southeast
- (2) Southcentral
- (3) Kodiak/Aleutians
- (4) Bristol Bay
- (5) Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta
- (6) Western Interior
- (7) Seward Peninsula
- (8) Northwest Arctic
- (9) Eastern Interior
- (10) North Slope

Regional Council Membership

Regional Council members are appointed by the Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture. Members must reside in the area they wish to represent and have knowledge of regional subsistence uses and needs. If you are interested in applying for membership, please contact the Regional Coordinator for your region (below) or (800) 478-1456.

FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE REGIONAL COORDINATORS

Nine Regional Coordinators facilitate communication between the Regional Councils and the Federal Subsistence Board. Each Regional Coordinator is responsible for one or two regions, and serves as a contact for the Regional Councils, Federal agency staffs and the public. Contact the Regional Coordinators for more information on the activities of each Regional Council.

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